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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/808,812	03/25/2004	Veerle Verschueren	227965	7592

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EXAMINER

WALKE, AMANDA C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1752

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/808,812

Applicant(s)

VERSCHUEREN ET AL.

Examiner

Amanda C. Walke

Art Unit

1752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/9/2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-9 and 11-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 4-9, and 11-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kita (6,593,057).

Kita disclose a heat-sensitive lithographic printing plate precursor is disclosed, comprising a metal substrate having thereon 1) an ink-receptive layer, 2) a water-receptive layer comprising a colloidal particulate oxide or hydroxide of at least one element selected from the group consisting of beryllium, magnesium, aluminum, silicon, titanium, boron, germanium, tin, zirconium, iron, vanadium, antimony and transition metals, or additionally 3) a water-soluble overcoat layer, at least one layer of the ink-receptive layer, the water-receptive layer and the overcoat layer containing a compound capable of converting light into heat and the ink-receptive layer containing an epoxy resin having a softening point of 120 degrees C or more. The substrate on which the ink-receptive layer of the present invention is coated is a metal substrate having good dimensional stability. Preferred examples of the metal substrate include aluminum, zinc, copper, nickel and stainless steel. Among these, aluminum substrate is more preferred.

The starting material aluminum plate used for the aluminum substrate of the present invention may be appropriately selected from conventionally known and commonly used aluminum plate materials. More specifically, the starting material aluminum plate is a pure aluminum plate or an alloy plate mainly comprising aluminum and containing trace foreign elements. Examples of the foreign elements contained in the aluminum alloy include silicon, iron, manganese, copper, magnesium, chromium, zinc, bismuth, nickel and titanium. The content of foreign elements in the alloy is 10% by weight or less. The aluminum plate may also be an aluminum plate obtained from an aluminum ingot using DC casting or continuous casting.

The thickness of the aluminum substrate for use in the present invention is from 0.05 to 0.6 mm, preferably from 0.1 to 0.4 mm, more preferably from 0.15 to 0.3 mm.

On the heat-sensitive lithographic printing plate precursor of the present invention, an image is formed by heat. More specifically, direct image recording by a thermal recording head or the like, scanning exposure by an infrared ray laser, high-intensity flash exposure by a xenon discharge lamp, or infrared ray lamp exposure may be applied. In particular, the exposure is suitably performed using a semiconductor laser which radiates an infrared ray in the wavelength range of 700 to 1,200 nm, or a solid high output infrared ray laser such as YAG laser.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2 and 3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art to prepare the material of the instant claims where in the particles have a size of greater than 0.4 microns.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 3/9/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant has argued that the particles taught by the reference do not meet the instant claim limitations. According to the reference (same paragraph that applicant cited), the reference teaches that the particles may have a size of up to 0.4 micron (given that the description of the particles includes a chain of particles taken to form one particle).

The 112 rejection made in the previous office action has been dropped in light of the cancellation of claim 10.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amanda C. Walke whose telephone number is 571-272-1337. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 5:30-4.

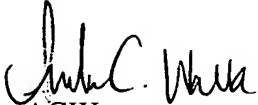
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia Kelly can be reached on 571-272-1526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 10/808,812

Page 5

Art Unit: 1752


ACW

May 30, 2005

Amanda C Walke
Examiner
Art Unit 1752